



Before the THRONE

The Devotional

Volume 1

Books of the Law & History

1 Samuel 8:1-5

“And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his son’s judges over Israel... but his sons walked not in his ways... and *the elders of Israel* said to Samuel, “Look, you are old, and your sons are not walking in your ways; now make us a king to judge us like all the *other nations*.” 1 Samuel 8:1-5

Samuel, like Eli, had failed when it came to his family! The greatness of Samuel’s ministry is diminished because his son’s mocked their father’s values! Can you see then, just how important it is that our children are not merely taught religious things, but trained up in the things of God? Speaking of leaders in the church, Paul exhorts Timothy that these should, “rule well their own house, have their children in subjection with all gravity (for if a man know not how to rule his own house, how shall he take care of the church of God?) (1 Timothy 3:4-5)

When our homes are out of order there is an open door for the Church to compromise her values and the world to dismiss our message. It is very important then for us not only to preach the gospel but to so live it out in front of our families that they desire to possess what we have lived out before them!

It is not enough to win the lost to Christ – the new convert must also now be discipled! Our task of evangelization is not complete until we have passed on our faith in such a way that our families and converts are living out what they have seen us living out!

Parents are you living for Christ in such a way that your children desire to follow your faith? Children, are you living for Jesus in such a way that your parents are convicted of their need for Him? What about your neighbors and co-workers?

May the LORD grace us all to so fulfill His purposes that our families, friends and acquaintances will desire to experience what we have lived out and demonstrated to them!